

**London Concert Choir**, one of London's leading amateur choirs, celebrates its 60th anniversary this season. A lively and friendly choir with 150 members and an unusually varied repertoire, LCC regularly appears with Music Director Mark Forkgen at London's premier concert venues, while destinations for tours abroad have included Augsburg, Assisi, Krakow and, most recently, Granada.

The choir's 50th anniversary in 2010 was marked by two performances of Britten's War Requiem. Other major works have included Mozart's Requiem with the London Mozart Players, Rachmaninov's choral symphony The Bells with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony and Brahms' German Requiem with Southbank Sinfonia.

Performances of Baroque music with Counterpoint include Handel's Messiah, Bach's St Matthew Passion and Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610. Operas in concert performance have ranged from Gluck's Orfeo to the London premiere of The Chalk Legend by Stephen McNeff. LCC has also performed Ellington's Sacred Concert, Will Todd's Mass in Blue and a concert to mark Leonard Bernstein's centenary. The choir often gives concerts for charity and continues to commission new works, including A Light not yet Ready to Go Out by Alison Willis for Breast Cancer Now, and Per Ardua ad Astra, a major work by Roderick Williams to celebrate the centenary of the RAF.

**Mark Forkgen**, the Music Director of London Concert Choir since 1996, is also Music Director of Canticum chamber choir, Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of Kokoro (the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's New Music Group) and Director of Music at Tonbridge School. A specialist in contemporary music, Mark also enjoys an active career as a pianist and as guest conductor with leading British orchestras.

## Supporting the Choir

London Concert Choir is indebted to its loyal supporters. Their generosity helps to guarantee the Choir's future, its planning and its ability to continue performing in London's finest concert halls alongside exceptional professional musicians. Every donation, large or small, makes a huge difference to the future of the choir.

For information on how you can support the choir, please contact:

[treasurer@londonconcertchoir.org](mailto:treasurer@londonconcertchoir.org)

Enquiries about opportunities for advertising in our concert programmes should be sent to the same address.

## Joining the Choir

The choir welcomes new members, who are invited to attend a few rehearsals before an informal audition. We rehearse on Monday evenings at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, London WC2.

If you are interested, please fill in your details online at: [londonconcertchoir.org](http://londonconcertchoir.org)

## Mailing List

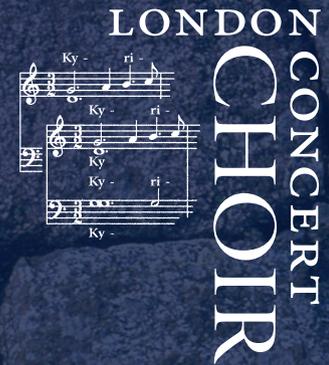
If you would like to receive advance information about LCC's concerts, you can join the choir's free mailing list:

[mailinglist@londonconcertchoir.org](mailto:mailinglist@londonconcertchoir.org)

The information you provide is subject to the Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and as such will be used exclusively by London Concert Choir.

[londonconcertchoir.org](http://londonconcertchoir.org)

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Music Director **Mark Forkgen**

60th Anniversary  
Season  
2019–20

[londonconcertchoir.org](http://londonconcertchoir.org)

**THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2019, 7.30PM**  
**CADOGAN HALL, SLOANE TERRACE, SW1**

## Purcell: King Arthur

*Concert performance*

Rachel Elliott *soprano*  
Rebecca Outram *soprano*  
Bethany Partridge *soprano*  
Will Towers *counter tenor*  
James Way *tenor*  
Peter Willcock *bass baritone*

Counterpoint ensemble

Tickets £30, £25, £20, £16, £12  
Box Office (020) 7730 4500  
cadoganhall.com

Purcell's colourful 'semi-opera' of 1691, depicting the conflict between King Arthur's Britons and the heathen Saxon invaders, was composed to words by the poet John Dryden.

In this performance of the music from the opera, soloists and chorus will take on the roles of good and evil magicians, mythical and supernatural beings, as well as soldiers, amorous shepherds, drunken peasants and the inhabitants of a frozen land.

Purcell's glorious music eloquently conveys the full range of emotions and the work ends in celebration of a united country and the triumph of love, honour and peace.



**MONDAY 16 DECEMBER 2019, 7.30PM**  
**HOLY TRINITY SLOANE SQUARE, SW1**

## Carols for Choir and Audience

Laurence Williams *organ*

Tickets £20 and £15 (under-16s £10)  
to include a free programme

Box Office (020) 7730 4500,  
cadoganhall.com and at the door

**WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 2020, 7.45PM**  
**HOLY TRINITY SLOANE SQUARE, SW1**

## Rachmaninov: Vespers (All-Night Vigil)

Tickets £25 and £15

Box Office (020) 7730 4500,  
cadoganhall.com and at the door

One of Rachmaninov's own favourite compositions, the Vespers is a setting of texts from the Russian Orthodox 'All-Night Vigil' encompassing Vespers, Matins and Prime. This choral symphony explores the ideas of Christ in divine and human form, climaxing in the dramatic recounting of the Resurrection and a magnificent hymn to the Mother of God.

Rachmaninov's transcendent music incorporates ancient Russian religious chants and uses the unaccompanied choir to create exquisite harmonies with colour and precision. The Vespers is enchanting and uplifting, with extremely low bass parts and rich vocal lines inviting meditative contemplation.

**SATURDAY 23 MAY 2020, 7.30PM**  
**ALL SAINTS CHURCH, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT**

*Excerpts from*

## Rachmaninov: Vespers (All-Night Vigil)

## Copland: Five Old American Songs

Tickets from £15, available at the door.

**TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2020, 7.30PM**  
**BARBICAN HALL, SILK STREET, EC2**

## Gershwin: Porgy and Bess

*Concert version by Andrew Litton*

## Gershwin: Overture to Girl Crazy Copland: Five Old American Songs

*with Southbank Sinfonia*

Tickets £35, £30, £25, £20, £16, £12  
Box Office (020) 7638 8891 / barbican.org.uk

This condensed concert version includes all the best-loved solos and choruses from Gershwin's 'American folk opera', including 'Summertime', 'Oh I Got Plenty O' Nuttin', 'Bess, You Is My Woman Now' and 'It Ain't Necessarily So'.

The energetic overture to the hit musical Girl Crazy launched the careers of Ginger Rogers and Ethel Merman and includes the instantly recognisable songs 'Embraceable You', 'I Got Rhythm' and 'But Not For Me'.

Copland's American song arrangement covers a wide range of themes; the Shaker hymn 'Simple Gifts' may be familiar from his ballet Appalachian Spring.